

QUESTIONS ANSWERED IN 1986 CLASSES
by Willis E. Bishop

Leper Sent to Priests

Before we get into the lesson this morning, there was a question as to why the leper was sent to the priest rather than to a doctor. If you were to read contemporary literature in the time of Christ as to how doctors dealt with sickness you would understand that it was not a very good place to go. You will remember that on one occasion the Lord said she had spent all her living on doctors and was still in bad shape. Some of their treatments were very weird. It was the Word of God that instructed how leprosy was to be dealt with, so the priests had something definite and clear and true from the Word of God. Leviticus 13 and 14 tell of certain sacrifices that are to be made, and those sacrifices were to be superintended by the priests. So there were a number of reasons for going to the priests instead of to a doctor.

Christ the Living Water

A question was asked, "What passage of Scripture states that Christ is the living water?" I could not think of one, so I searched my concordance to be sure, and learned that there is no passage of Scripture that says Christ is the living water. He gives the living water -- John 4 and 7, Revelation 21 and 22 -- but there is no passage that says He is the living water.

Spikenard

There is some difference of opinion as to what this was -- there is a possibility that it was brought from India. But I want to read some things I have gleaned from two of my Bible dictionaries: "The fragrant essential oil obtained from the *Nardostachys jatamansi*, a perennial related to valerian but having more pleasantly scented roots. It is a native of North India where it is still used as a perfume for the hair. In biblical times spikenard was imported and was extremely costly. It was imported in sealed alabaster boxes (that prolonged its fragrance) which were opened only on special occasions." Then the one dictionary pointed out that it is rose-red in color. I don't know whether it is available in this country or not.

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